

REMARKS

This is responsive to the Notice of Non-Compliant Amendment dated September 27, 2006. Claims 1-20 were pending in the application. All claims were rejected. With this response, claims 1, 2, and 20 have been amended. Applicant believes that application is in a condition for allowance. Applicant respectfully requests notice to that effect.

Claims 2-8 and 10-19 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. §102 as being anticipated by Stastny. Claim 2 has been amended such that the cover is an "outer cover". All other claims depend from claim 2. The cover of Stastny is an inner disc as best seen in Figure 3. An inner cover is positioned differently on the shaft in a stronger structural position. Either end of the Stastney shaft is rotatably secured where the end will not bend or waiver. There is no teaching that the cover can likewise be mounted as an outer cover in the often harsh environment of vibrating speaker. Applicant believes the rejection under 35 U.S.C. §102 has been overcome and should be withdrawn.

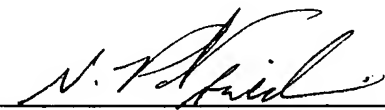
Claims 1, 9, and 20 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. §103 as being unpatentable over Stasney. Claims 1, 2, and 20 (claim 9 depends from 2) have been amended such that the cover is an "outer cover". The cover of Stastny is an inner disc as best seen in Figure 3. An inner cover is positioned differently on the shaft in a stronger structural position. Either end of the Stastney shaft is rotatably secured where the end will not bend or waiver. There is no teaching that the cover can likewise be mounted as an outer cover in the often harsh environment of vibrating speaker. Applicant believes the rejection under 35 U.S.C. §103 has been overcome and should be withdrawn.

CONCLUSION

It is respectfully submitted that, with the present amendments to the claims, oath and drawings, and in light of the above remarks, all of the presently pending claims should be seen to be fully supported by the present specification and to define an invention patentable over all of the art of record, whether taken separately or in any combination. The prompt issuance of a formal Notice of Allowance is seen to be in order and is solicited to be forthcoming.

Should the Examiner be of the opinion that any minor matters remain to be settled prior to the issuance of a Notice of Allowance, a telephone call to the undersigned attorney of record is respectfully invited to assure prompt resolution thereof. Counsel may be reached at: **(763) 862-8987**.

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